

Listing of the Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A method for conveying rod-shaped articles in the tobacco-processing industry, comprising:

holding the articles on a conveying drum with the aid of a holding vacuum;

transferring the respective articles in a transfer region from the conveying drum to a removal drum, including ~~stopping~~ compensating the holding vacuum at the conveying drum for removal of the article from the conveying drum and supplying a holding vacuum to the removal drum.

Claim 2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further including stopping the holding vacuum at the removal drum if no articles are to be removed.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the compensating and stopping steps are effected ~~by stopping the respective holding vacuum~~ with the aid of pressure surge.

Claim 4. (Original) The method according to claim 3, further including supplying compressed air to one of the removal drum and the conveying drum to create the pressure surge.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the holding step includes supplying the holding vacuum to the articles via suction bores in the conveying drum and ~~and~~ the supplying step includes supplying the vacuum to the removal drum via suction

bores in the removal drum.

Claim 6. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the stopping step includes stopping the holding vacuum supplied to a single receiving trough for an article in the conveying drum.

Claim 7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the step of stopping the holding vacuum at the removal drum includes stopping the holding vacuum supplied to a single receiving trough for an article.

Claim 8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for conveying rod-shaped articles in the tobacco-processing industry, comprising:

a conveying drum adapted to be supplied with a vacuum for holding articles;
a removal drum adapted to be supplied with a holding vacuum for holding articles; and
first means for ~~stopping~~ compensating the holding vacuum at the conveying drum while an article is removed from the conveying drum with the aid of the removal drum.

Claim 9. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 8, including second means for stopping the holding vacuum at the removal drum if no articles are removed from the conveying drum.

Claim 10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein at least one of the first compensating means and second stopping means includes means for stopping the respective holding vacuum with the aid of compressed air.

Claim 11. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein at least one of the conveying drum and the removal drum include suction bores.

Claim 12. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the conveying drum and the removal drum each have troughs for holding the articles, and the apparatus further includes means for stopping the holding vacuum to a single article trough in one of the conveying drum and the removal drum.

Claim 13. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 10, further comprising a compressed air source communicating with the means for stopping.

Claim 14. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 13, further including a valve coupled between the compressed-air source and the means for stopping.

Claim 15. (Canceled)

Claim 16. (New) A method of attaching a filter to a cigarette, comprising utilizing the apparatus according to claim 8.